



## Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

6 March 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: February 27, 2006

### Conditions Report

No impacts are expected in any Florida County this week. Due to current harmful algal bloom inactivity, bulletins are issued each Monday, until conditions warrant continuance of twice weekly bulletins.

### Analysis

No *Karenia brevis* was detected in any samples this week along the coast of Southwest Florida, from Citrus to Collier County. No recent sampling available offshore Dixie and Levy County. Sampling from 2/18 (FWRI) indicated one background concentration of *K. brevis* and multiple "not present" samples; the feature is likely non harmful. Chlorophyll levels remain elevated in a band from 29°6.3'N 83°5.7'W to 30°2.5'N 84°16.3'W due to river runoff.

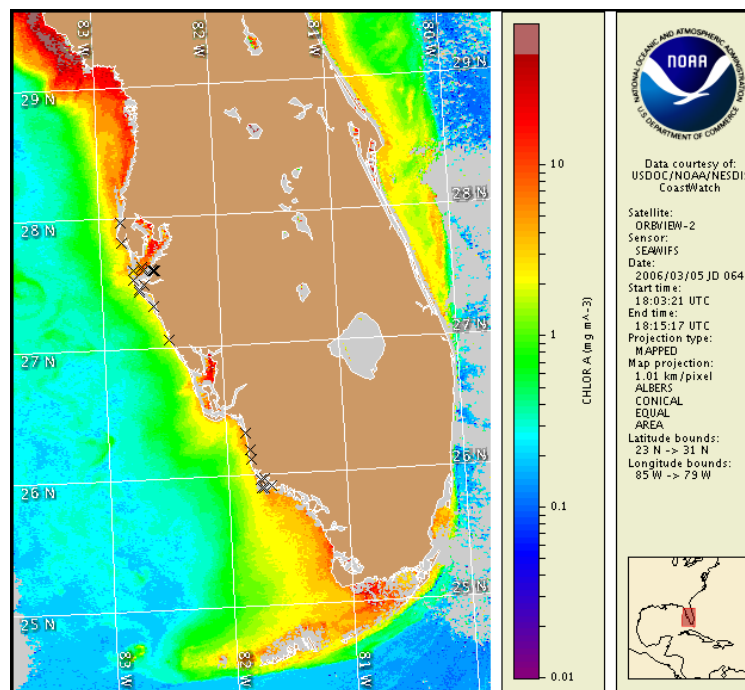
An elevated chlorophyll feature was detected via satellite imagery on 3/5 west of Boca Grande, at 26°42.7'N 82°18.3'W. No recent samples available, sampling recommended.

No *K. brevis* was detected in any samples this week from Cudjoe Key to the Marquesas, on either the gulf or oceanside. A fish kill was reported in Big Pine Key over a week ago, but the cause is currently unknown. Patches of elevated chlorophyll have been detected via satellite imagery along the gulf side of the Marquesas Keys at 24°37.2'N 82°9.1'W, Key West National Wildlife Refuge centered at 24°36.7'N 81°55.6'W, north of Key West at 24°39.2'N 81°48.1'W, and northeast of Big Pine Key at 24°50'N 81°16.3'W. Slight westerly movement of these features is possible through Friday. Continued sampling is recommended along the gulf coast of the Lower Keys. Reports of discolored water are possible at Key West National Wildlife Refuge and Marquesas Keys.

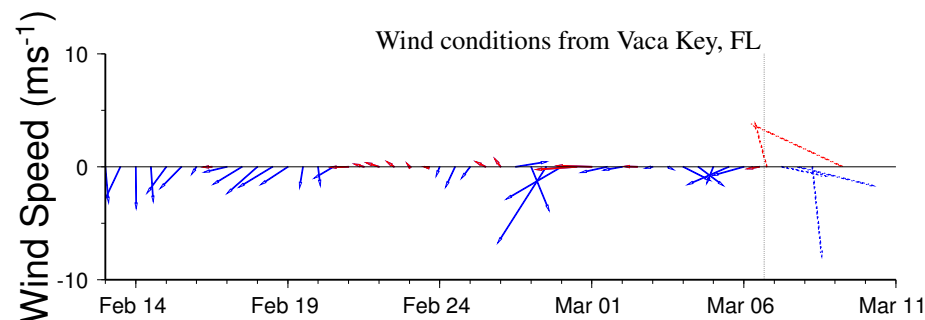
-Stolz and Fisher

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.



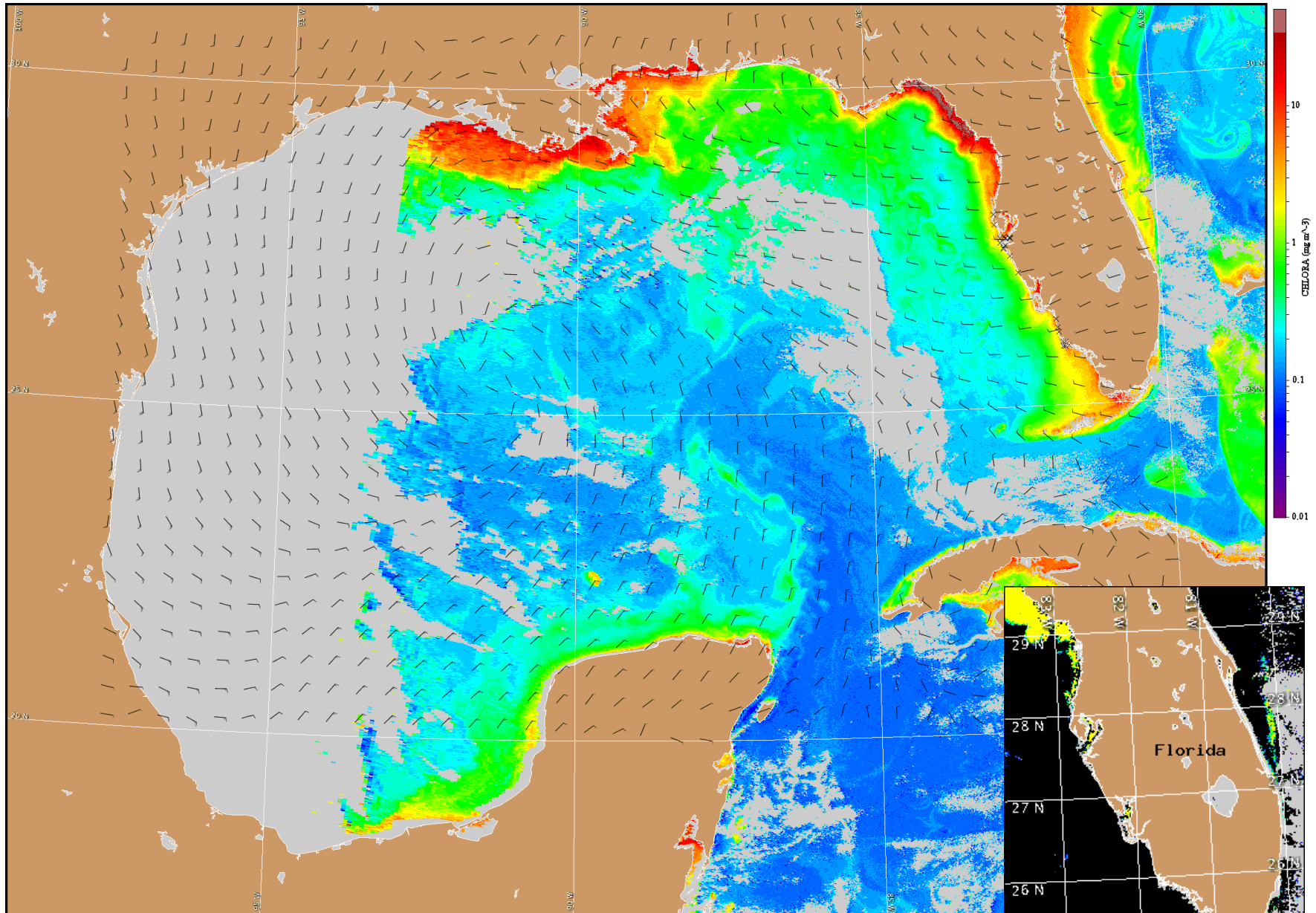
Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from February 24-28 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Light and variable winds today increasing to 15-20 knots (8-10 m/s) from the northwest by tonight. Northerly winds Tuesday becoming northeast Tuesday night at 10-15 knots (5-8 m/s). Southeast winds at 15-20 knots (8-10 m/s) Wednesday through Friday.

Keys: Light and variable winds today increasing to 10 knots (5 m/s) from the west to northwest tonight. North to northeast winds at 15-20 knots (8-10 m/s) Tuesday and Wednesday, clocking to the east late Wednesday, to the southeast Thursday and Friday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 7, 2006 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from February 24-28 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

